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Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 2, 7, 12, 17 and 22. Please amend Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21 and 46. Please add new Claims 47-48. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Currently Amended) A method for calibrating a camera comprising the steps of:
digitizing an image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;
from the digitized image, determining pixel intensity drop off caused by a
vignetting effect and an off-axis pixel projection effect; and
~~computing recovering an intrinsic parameter of the camera other than pixel
intensity drop off using substantially only the determined pixel intensity drop off such
that camera calibration is achieved according to the determined pixel intensity drop off to
the exclusion of other image factors.~~
2. Canceled.
3. Canceled.
4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the step of computing
is dependent on a camera tilt effect.
5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the step of
computing the parameters of a model by minimizing the difference between the digitized
image and the model.
6. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for calibrating a camera, the
computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer
readable code thereon, including program code which:

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retrieves a digitized image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;

from the digitized image, determines pixel intensity drop off caused by a vignetting effect and an off-axis pixel projection effect; and

~~computes recovers~~ an intrinsic parameter of the camera other than pixel intensity drop off based on substantially only the determined drop off ~~such that camera calibration is achieved according to determined pixel intensity drop off to the exclusion of other image factors.~~

7. Canceled.
8. Canceled.
9. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in claim 6 wherein the program code computes parameters based on a camera tilt effect.
10. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in claim 6 wherein the program code computes parameters of a model by minimizing difference between the digitized image and the model.
11. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:
 - a memory system;
 - an I/O system connected to the memory system;
 - a storage device connected to the I/O system; and
 - a calibration routine located in the memory system responsive to a request for calibrating a camera which:
 - retrieves a digitized image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;
 - from the digitized image, determines pixel intensity drop off caused by a vignetting effect and an off-axis pixel projection effect; and

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~~computes recovers an intrinsic parameter of the camera other than pixel intensity drop off based on substantially only the determined drop off such that camera calibration is achieved according to the determined pixel intensity drop off to the exclusion of other image factors.~~

12. Canceled.
13. Canceled.
14. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in claim 11 wherein the calibration routine computes parameters dependent on a camera tilt effect.
15. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in claim 11 wherein the calibration routine computes parameters of a model stored in the storage device, by minimizing difference between the digitized image and the model.
16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for calibrating a camera comprising:
means for digitizing an image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;
means for determining pixel intensity drop off in the digitized image caused by a vignetting effect and an off-axis pixel projection effect; and
means for ~~computing recovering~~ an intrinsic parameter of the camera other than pixel intensity drop off using substantially only the determined pixel intensity drop off such that camera calibration is achieved according to the determined pixel intensity drop off with the exclusion of other image factors.
17. Canceled.
18. Canceled

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19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 16 wherein the means for computing computes parameters based on a camera tilt effect.
20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 16 wherein the means for computing further comprises means for computing parameters of a model by minimizing difference between the digitized image and the model.
21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for calibrating a camera comprising:
 - a retrieval routine which retrieves a digitized image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;
 - a routine which determines pixel intensity drop off in the digitized image caused by a vignetting effect and an off-axis pixel projection effect; and
 - a parameter computing routine which ~~computes recovers~~ an intrinsic parameter of the camera other than the pixel intensity drop off using substantially only the determined pixel intensity drop off such that camera calibration is achieved according to the ~~determined pixel intensity drop off with the exclusion of other image factors.~~
22. Canceled.
23. Canceled.
24. Canceled.
25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 21 wherein the parameter computing routine further comprises a model routine which computes parameters of a model by minimizing difference between the digitized image and the model.
26. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the intrinsic parameter is selected from the group consisting of focal length, principal point, skew and aspect ratio.

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27. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the intrinsic parameter is focal length.
28. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the intrinsic parameter is principal point.
29. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the intrinsic parameter is skew.
30. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the intrinsic parameter is aspect ratio.
31. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the intrinsic parameter is selected from the group consisting of focal length, principal point, skew and aspect ratio.
32. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the intrinsic parameter is focal length.
33. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the intrinsic parameter is principal point.
34. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the intrinsic parameter is skew.
35. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the intrinsic parameter is aspect ratio.

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36. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the intrinsic parameter is selected from the group consisting of focal length, principal point, skew and aspect ratio.
37. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the intrinsic parameter is focal length.
38. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the intrinsic parameter is principal point.
39. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the intrinsic parameter is skew.
40. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the intrinsic parameter is aspect ratio.
41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the intrinsic parameter is selected from the group consisting of focal length, principal point, skew and aspect ratio.
42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the intrinsic parameter is focal length.
43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the intrinsic parameter is principal point.
44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the intrinsic parameter is skew.

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45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the intrinsic parameter is aspect ratio.
46. (Currently Amended) A method for calibrating a camera comprising the steps of:
digitizing an image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;
from the digitized image, determining pixel intensity drop off caused by a vignetting effect and an off-axis pixel projection effect; and
~~computing recovering~~ focal length of the camera using substantially only the determined pixel intensity drop off, such that camera calibration is achieved according to the determined pixel intensity drop off to the exclusion of other image factors.
47. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the off-axis pixel projection effect is dependent on the focal length of the camera.
49. (New) The method of claim 47 wherein illuminance of an off-axis image point in the digitized image is proportional to the focal length and distance of the point from the center of the digitized image on the optical axis.

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